

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

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3 **1. (currently amended):** A method for generating a permission grant set for
4 a code assembly received from a resource location, the method comprising:

5 receiving a security policy specification defining a plurality of code groups,
6 each code group being associated with a code-group permission set;

7 receiving evidence associated with the code assembly;

8 evaluating the evidence relative to the code groups to determine
9 membership of the code assembly in two or more of the code groups; and

10 generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more code-
11 group permission sets, each code-group permission set of the two or more code-
12 group permission sets being associated with a code group in which the code
13 assembly is a member.

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15 **2. (previously presented):** The method of claim 1 wherein the generating
16 operation comprises:

17 dynamically generating a code-group permission set based on permissions
18 associated with the two or more code groups.

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20 **3. (original):** The method of claim 1 wherein the generating operation
21 comprises:

22 computing a logical set operation on code-group permission sets associated
23 with the code groups in which the code assembly is a member to generate the
24 permission grant set.
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1 4. (original): The method of claim 3 wherein the computing operation
2 comprises:

3 computing the logical set operation based on order values associated with
4 the code groups.

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6 5. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the generating operation
7 comprises:

8 computing a union of the code-group permission sets associated with code
9 groups in which the code assembly is a member to generate the permission grant
10 set.

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12 6. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy
13 specification further defines at least one code group collection associated with the
14 plurality of code groups and the generating operation comprises:

15 selecting a code-group permission set associated with an individual code
16 group of the code group collection in which the code assembly is a member to
17 generate the permission grant set.

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19 7. (original): The method of claim 6 wherein the security policy
20 specification defines the at least one code group collection as a code group
21 hierarchy.

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1 8. (original): The method of claim 6 further comprising:

2 an exclusive property associated with the single code group indicating that
3 the code-group permission set associated with the single code group is to be
4 selected to generate the permission grant set.

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6 9. (original): The method of claim 8 further comprising:

7 an exclusive property associated with the single code group indicating that
8 no code-group permission set associated with a code group existing below the
9 single code group in a code group hierarchy is to be used to generate the
10 permission grant set.

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12 10. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy
13 specification further defines a policy level associated with the plurality of code
14 groups, and the generating operation comprises:

15 computing a union of the code-group permission sets associated with code
16 groups in which the code assembly is a member to generate a policy-level
17 permission set; and

18 generating the permission grant set based on the policy-level permission set.
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1 **11. (original):** The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy
2 specification further defines at least one code group collection associated with the
3 plurality of code groups and a policy level associated with the at least one code
4 group collection, and the generating operation comprises:

5 selecting a code-group permission set associated with an individual code
6 group of the code group collection in which the code assembly is a member to
7 generate a policy-level permission set; and

8 generating the permission grant set based on the policy-level permission set.
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10 **12. (original):** The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy
11 specification further defines a plurality of policy levels, each policy level being
12 associated with the plurality of code groups, and the generating operation
13 comprises:

14 selecting, for each policy level, a code-group permission set associated with
15 an individual code group in the code groups of the policy level in which the code
16 assembly is a member to generate a corresponding policy-level permission set; and

17 merging the corresponding policy-level permission sets to generate the
18 permission grant set.
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20 **13. (original):** The method of claim 12 wherein the merging operation
21 comprises:

22 computing an intersection of the corresponding policy-level permission sets
23 associated with each policy level.
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1 14. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy
2 specification further defines a plurality of policy levels, each policy level being
3 associated with a plurality of code groups, and the generating operation comprises:
4 computing, for each policy level, a union of the code-group permission sets
5 associated with code groups of the policy level in which the code assembly is a
6 member to generate a corresponding policy-level permission set; and
7 merging the corresponding policy-level permission sets to generate the
8 permission grant set.

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10 15. (original): The method of claim 14 wherein the merging operation
11 comprises:
12 computing an intersection of the corresponding policy-level permission sets
13 associated with each policy level.

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15 16. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy
16 specification further defines a plurality of ordered policy levels associated with the
17 plurality of code groups, such that a first policy level defines a more restrictive
18 security policy than a second policy level.

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20 17. (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:
21 extracting from the security policy specification a membership criterion for
22 a code group in the plurality of code groups.

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1 **18. (original):** The method of claim 17 wherein the evaluating operation
2 comprises:

3 extracting one or more trust characteristics from the evidence;
4 evaluating the trust characteristics relative to the membership criterion; and
5 identifying the code assembly as a member of the code group, if the one or
6 more trust characteristics satisfy the membership criterion.

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8 **19. (original):** The method of claim 1 further comprising:
9 extracting from the security policy specification a code-group permission
10 set for each code group in the plurality of code groups.

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12 **20. (original):** The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy
13 specification further describes at least one code group hierarchy associated with
14 the plurality of code groups, each code group collection including a parent code
15 group, and further comprising:

16 extracting from the security policy specification a definition of at least one
17 child code group of the parent code group in the at least one code group collection.

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19 **21. (original):** The method of claim 20 wherein the evaluating operation
20 comprises:

21 determining whether the code assembly is a member of the parent code
22 group; and

23 determining whether the code assembly is a member of the at least one child
24 code group, if the code assembly is a member of the parent code group.

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1 22. (previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 performing verification on the code assembly;
3 detecting a verification failure of the code assembly in the operation of
4 performing verification; and
5 determining based on the permission grant set whether the code assembly
6 may be executed despite the verification failure.

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8 23. (previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising:
9 determining based on the permission grant set that a step of a verification
10 process is unnecessary;
11 communicating to a verification module that the step of the verification
12 process may be bypassed;
13 performing the verification process on the code assembly with the
14 verification module; and
15 bypassing the step of the verification process, responsive to the
16 communicating operation.

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1 24. (currently amended): A computer data signal embodied in a carrier
2 wave by a computing system and encoding a computer program for executing a
3 computer process generating a permission grant set for a code assembly received
4 from a resource location, the computer process comprising:

5 receiving a security policy specification defining a plurality of code groups,
6 each code group being associated with a code-group permission set;

7 receiving evidence associated with the code assembly;

8 evaluating the evidence relative to the code groups to determine
9 membership of the code assembly in two or more of the code groups; and

10 generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more code-
11 group permission sets, each code-group permission set of the two or more code-
12 group permission sets being associated with a code group in which the code
13 assembly is a member.

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1 **25.** (currently amended): A computer program storage medium readable by
2 a computer system and encoding a computer program for executing a computer
3 process generating a permission grant set for a code assembly received from a
4 resource location, the computer process comprising:

5 receiving a security policy specification defining a plurality of code groups,
6 each code group being associated with a code-group permission set;

7 receiving evidence associated with the code assembly;

8 evaluating the evidence relative to the code groups to determine
9 membership of the code assembly in two or more of the code groups; and

10 generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more code-
11 group permission sets, each code-group permission set of the two or more code-
12 group permission sets being associated with a code group in which the code
13 assembly is a member.

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15 **26.-36.** (canceled)
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1 37. (currently amended): A computer program product encoding a
2 computer program for executing on a computer system a computer process for
3 generating a permission grant set for a code assembly received from a resource
4 location, the code assembly being associated with an evidence set, the computer
5 process comprising:

6 receiving a security policy specification defining at least one code group
7 collection having two or more code groups, each code group being associated with
8 a code-group permission set;

9 evaluating the evidence set relative to the code group collection to
10 determine membership of the code assembly in two or more code groups of the
11 code group collection; and

12 generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more code-
13 group permission sets, each code-group permission set of the two or more code-
14 group permission sets being associated with a code group in which the code
15 assembly is a member.

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17 38. (original): The program product of claim 37 wherein the generating
18 operation comprises:

19 computing a union of the code-group permission sets associated with code
20 groups of the code group collection in which the code assembly is a member to
21 generate the permission grant set.

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1 **39. (original):** The program product of claim 37 wherein the generating
2 operation comprises:

3 selecting a code-group permission set associated with an individual code
4 group of the code group collection in which the code assembly is a member to
5 generate the permission grant set.

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7 **40. (previously presented):** The program product of claim 37 wherein the
8 security policy specification further defines a plurality of policy levels associated
9 with the two or more code groups, and the generating operation comprises:

10 computing, for each policy level, a union of the code-group permission sets
11 associated with code groups in which the code assembly is a member to generate a
12 corresponding policy-level permission set; and

13 generating the permission grant set based on the corresponding policy-level
14 permission set of each policy level.

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16 **41. (currently amended):** The program product of claim 40 wherein the
17 operation of generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more
18 code-group permission sets further comprises:

19 computing an intersection of the corresponding policy-level permission sets
20 associated with each policy level.

1 **42.** (currently amended): The program product of claim 40 wherein the
2 operation of generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more
3 code-group permission sets further comprises:

4 computing an intersection of a subset of the corresponding policy-level
5 permission sets.

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7 **43.** (original): The program product of claim 37 wherein the computer
8 process further comprises:

9 extracting from the security policy specification a membership criterion for
10 a code group in the plurality of code groups.

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12 **44.** (original): The program product of claim 43 wherein the evaluating
13 operation comprises:

14 extracting one or more trust characteristics from the evidence;
15 evaluating the trust characteristics relative to the membership criterion; and
16 identifying the code assembly as a member of the code group, if the trust
17 characteristics satisfy the membership criterion.

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19 **45.** (previously presented): The program product of claim 37, wherein the
20 computer process further comprises:

21 caching the permission grant set in association with the evidence; and
22 outputting the permission grant set in response to a subsequent receipt of
23 the evidence without re-evaluating the evidence.

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25 **46.-48.** (canceled)

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2 **49. (original):** A method of verifying a code assembly received from a
3 resource location, the method comprising:

4 receiving a security policy specification defining a security policy;
5 receiving evidence associated with the code assembly;
6 evaluating the evidence relative to the security policy;
7 performing verification on the code assembly;
8 detecting a verification failure of the code assembly in the operation of
9 performing verification; and
10 determining whether the code assembly may be executed despite the
11 verification failure, responsive to the evaluating operation.

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13 **50. (original):** The method of claim 49 wherein the operation of receiving
14 evidence comprises:

15 receiving evidence associated with a class of the code assembly.

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17 **51. (original):** The method of claim 49 wherein the operation of receiving
18 evidence comprises:

19 receiving evidence associated with a module of the code assembly.

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21 **52. (original):** The method of claim 49 wherein the operation of receiving
22 evidence comprises:

23 receiving evidence associated with a method of the code assembly.
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1 **53.** (previously presented): A method of verifying a code assembly
2 received from a resource location, the method comprising:
3 receiving a security policy specification defining a security policy;
4 receiving evidence associated with the code assembly;
5 evaluating the evidence relative to the security policy;
6 generating a permission grant set, responsive to the evaluating operation;
7 determining based on the permission grant set that a step of a verification
8 process is unnecessary;
9 communicating to a verification module that the step of the verification
10 process may be bypassed;
11 performing the verification process on the code assembly with the
12 verification module; and
13 bypassing the step of the verification process, responsive to the
14 communicating operation.
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16 **54.** (original): The method of claim 53 wherein the generating operation
17 comprises:
18 generating the permission grant set in association with a module of the code
19 assembly, responsive to the evaluating operation.
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21 **55.** (original): The method of claim 53 wherein the generating operation
22 comprises:
23 generating the permission grant set in association with a class of the code
24 assembly, responsive to the evaluating operation.
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1 **56. (original):** The method of claim 53 wherein the generating operation
2 comprises:

3 generating the permission grant set in association with a method of the code
4 assembly, responsive to the evaluating operation.
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